

NSC BRIEFING

31 OCTOBER 1958

ANNEX A - FRENCH O/B TABLE

1. Disposition of French Army troops in Mediterranean area:
total--473,500 (including North Africa and Red Sea area).

Cyprus	4,000
Tunisia	38,000
Algeria	359,000
Morocco	71,000
Djibouti	1,500
	<u>473,500</u>

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(Unconfirmed press reports of Foreign Legion parachutist elements and naval commandos sailing 31 October from Algiers;

2. French Navy units in Mediterranean area:

1 Battleship (press reports en route from Algiers to Middle East)
3 Aircraft carriers (2 sighted off Cyprus, 1 at Toulon)
3 Light cruisers (1 off Malta, 1 Algiers, 1 Toulon)
1 AA Cruiser (off Cyprus)
7 Destroyers (1 Cyprus, 3 Haifa, 1 Toulon, 2 possible en route Middle East)
9 Submarines (1 en route, from Malta to Cyprus, 8 Toulon)
(plus auxiliary vessels)

A. Disposition of units in Red Sea area

2 naval escort vessels at Djibouti

3. Disposition of French combat jet aircraft in Mediterranean area:

A. Total FAF --252 to 278
Fleet Air Arm-- 59 to 70

B. FAF

Cyprus	48 to 80 jet fighters
French North Africa	202 jet fighters (obsolescent)
	<u>250 - 282</u>

C. Fleet Air Arm

North Africa 59-70 (all believed still in North Africa;
no carrier based jet capability)

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